Recovery of vehicle advance from the officers not serving in NCCF

2386. SHRI RANJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any unrecovered amount of vehicle advance is due from officers who are no longer in service of the NCCF;

(b) if so, what are the details of such outstandings and since when these are lying unrecovered; and

(c) what action has been taken by the NCCF to recover the amount due either from the officers concerned or their guarantors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Out of Rs. 12000/- advanced in December 1978, an amount of Rs. 11,550 and interest on the entire amount is due from a former Senior Administrative Officer of the National Cooperative Consumers Federation, who was on deputation from the Government of Uttar Pradeesh. Out of Rs. 50,000 advanced in August, 1984, a amount of Rs. 46875, and interest on the entire amount is due from the former Chief Manager of NCCF.

(c) The matter has been taken up with the Government of Uttar Pradesh for recovery of the amount from the former Senior Administrative Officer and a legal notice has been served to the former Chief Manager for refund of the amount. Action against the guarantors to cover the amount will be taken by the NCCF if the loan is not recovered from the principal loanees.

Improved production techniques for high altitude

2387. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any research in improving production tchniques for high altitude tests are being carried out; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) through a large network of its institute and coordinated projects in various States is undertaking research in this area. ICAR Research Complex for North-East Hill (NER) Region, Shillong alongwith its 6 sub-centres in the NEH Region, Central Potato Research Institute Simla and its Sub-Stations at Shillong (Maghalaya) and Octacamund Tamilnadu) are undertaking research on various aspects of potato. Indian Agricultural Research Institute's Regional Station for off season Nurseries at Lahaul Spiti ((H.P) and Wellington (Tamilnadu); Vivekananda Parvatiya Krishi Anusandhan Shala, Almora; Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute's Regional Station at Srinagar; the Regional Station of National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources at Bhowali are dong research on germplasm collection, its evaluation and maintenance etc. In addition, a number of I.C.A.R. supported research schemes are fuctioning in the agriucltural universities for undertaking research in high altitude areas in the States of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and NEH Region on rice, Wheat barley, pulses, forages, and maize crops. The results of practical utility obtained from various investigations are field tested for wide scale